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1. At a meeting on 15 - 16 August 1952 the Politburo of the SED discussed the policy to be pursued toward West Germany after the inclusion of the Federal Republic in the European Defense Community and after the complete Sovietization of the Russian zone. Franz Dahlem pointed out that the KPD had not succeeded in gaining sympathy for the Soviet Union, nor had any other groups, whether socialistic, religious, or economic.
2. Max Reimann, chairman of the KPD, said that the Communists could not expect to improve their position in the next Bundestag election. He explained that the present social status of the workers, and their dislike for the "Activist" system in East Germany, would keep them out of the Communist camp. Furthermore, he said, the West German workers are inclined to aspire to the high standard of living of American workers. Actually, he added, the workers are a greater barrier to the progress of the KPD than the middle classes, some of whom desire trade with the East or want an agreement with the USSR for religious reasons. Nevertheless, these middle-class elements do not constitute an effective front against the West, and they have resisted organization by the KPD.
3. A further discussion of this problem by the Politburo was scheduled for 28-30 August, when a new plan of action based on Dahlem's and Reimann's remarks was to be presented.

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